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April 11, 2012

Domestic Violence Resource Manual for Healthcare Professionals Released

Wilmington, DE – The Domestic Violence Coordinating Council in partnership with Christiana Care Health System and the Medical Society of Delaware announces the publication of the Domestic Violence Resource Manual for Healthcare Professionals.

Research indicates that Domestic Violence may affect as many as 33% of female patients and their children and up to 7.4% of male patients. The Resource Manual was developed to assist healthcare professionals in the treatment of patients involved in domestic violence. We thank Christiana Care and the Medical Society of Delaware for their assistance in disseminating this important information to members of the medical community.

According to Attorney General Biden, “Healthcare professionals often meet victims of domestic violence at moments of crisis, but these terrible situations can also present the opportunity to intervene and break the cycle. By educating professionals on the signs of domestic violence, the unique medical and mental health needs of victims, and the resources available to their patients, this Manual can help Delaware's healthcare professionals change lives.”

Dr. Matthew Hoffman, Director of OB/GYN Education and Research at Christiana Care, states, “Domestic violence is a major public health problem, resulting in injuries and other short and long term health consequences, including mental illness and complications of pregnancy. It is a chronic, life-threatening condition that is treatable. The manual is a valuable resource that assists providers in giving the best possible care to victims of Domestic Violence”.

“The Medical Society is pleased to partner with the Domestic Violence Coordinating Council in the distribution of this valuable resource. Neither victims nor batterers fit a distinct personality or profile and abuse affects people of all ages, ethnicities and socioeconomic classes. The Resource Manual encourages universal screening of patients for domestic violence,” states Dr. Randeep Kahlon, President of the Medical Society of Delaware.

In conjunction with the release of the Medical Manual, the Domestic Violence Coordinating Council will offer training to all hospitals within the State of Delaware. The trainings commenced on March 28th at Christiana Hospital.

The Medical Manual is available in the Practice Management section of the Medical Society of Delaware's Website (www.medicalsocietyofdelaware.org) and can also be found on the Domestic Violence Coordinating Council's Website under Publications (www.dvcc.delaware.gov).

Please call Bridget Poulle @ 302-547-5341 for additional information.

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